



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

House of Representatives

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT ARNOLD RAYMOND LAMBERT AND HIS SERVICE IN WORLD WAR II

June 6, 2019

Mr. HUDSON: **Madam SPEAKER**, I rise today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day and honor Staff Sergeant Arnold Raymond “Ray” Lambert, a World War II veteran and Moore County constituent.

There are American heroes, and then there are American giants. Ray – along with other men and women of the Greatest Generation – is a giant. At 98-years-old, he is one of the few surviving warriors who stormed the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944.

Seventy-five years ago, 160,000 Allied troops landed along a heavily fortified French coastline and established a foot-hold in Nazi-occupied France – though that one sentence hardly does the invasion any justice. D-Day was a major turning point in WWII and the beginning of the end for Nazi Germany.

Ray served as a medic in the 16th Infantry Regiment of the army’s storied First Division, the “Big Red One.” Facing intense fire from German forces, his medical unit landed with the first assault wave at Omaha Beach. Soldiers were killed and wounded all around him, and Ray pressed on – rescuing troops from drowning, attending to countless wounds, hauling soldiers to safety, and always serving his fellow men in uniform. He was wounded and in immense pain himself, but he persevered after giving himself a shot of morphine. That’s incredible and selfless service at its finest.

Ray sacrificed on that beach. He saved countless men on that beach. And he never once gave up. After breaking his back and losing consciousness, he was picked up and evacuated by a landing craft. On that same landing craft was another heroic medic who was wounded – his brother, Bill. They were taken to safety in England and began the long journey back home and to recovery.

Before Normandy, Ray served in North Africa with the Big Red One and earned his first Silver Star for rescuing wounded soldiers under fire in 1943. He continued to risk his life to save his fellow men in uniform, next in Sicily. A Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Silver Star recipient, Ray continues to serve our country and our community and he recently published a memoir titled “Every Man a Hero.”

I admire Ray not only for his service, but also for his desire to memorialize his fallen comrades and his efforts to pass on the great values of his generation. As he said recently, “Perhaps they should teach a little more in schools about World War II and how the generation at that time, my generation, loved the country and respected the flag and was willing to fight for our families and our country.” I agree and believe every generation owes an enormous debt to Ray and the Greatest Generation.

I applaud Ray for his tremendous service, and I thank him for his courageous and selfless actions. I am so proud to represent him in Congress, and I wish he and his wife Barbara and their family all the best.

Madam SPEAKER, please join me today in honoring Staff Sergeant Ray Lambert and his service to our country.

Thank you, **Madam SPEAKER**. I yield back the balance of my time.

RICHARD HUDSON
Member of Congress